

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

B1
GX
Claim 1 (currently amended): A mounting bracket for an inflatable curtain, comprising:
an pair of attachment plates for engaging the inflatable curtain, each plate engagable with a respective opposing surface of the inflatable curtain, the at least one attachment plate
defining an opening; and
a bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the bushing in rotatable communication with the attachment plate adjacent the opening, the bushing configured to receive a fastener.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of the bushing comprises a diameter smaller than the opening of ~~the~~ the at least one attachment plate.

Claim 3 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing is deformable to facilitate positioning of the bushing within the opening.

Claim 4 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing comprises a protrusion positioned at the inner surface to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the bushing.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing further comprises a flange extending radially from the outer surface of the bushing to facilitate retention of the bushing within the opening in ~~the~~ the at least one attachment plate.

Claim 6 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing comprises a first piece rotatably engaged to a second piece.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The mounting bracket of claim 6, wherein the first piece is attached to ~~the~~ at least one attachment plate.

B1
GTX
Claim 8 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 6, wherein the second piece is attached to a fastener.

Claim 9 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 1, wherein the bushing comprises a snap having a male member and a female member.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The mounting bracket of claim 9, wherein the female member rotatably engages ~~the~~ at least one attachment plate at the opening.

Claim 11 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 9, wherein the male member comprises a protrusion positioned to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the bushing.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended) The mounting bracket of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein each plate defines an opening, the opening of each plate being substantially aligned with each other to permit the positioning of a fastener within each opening.

Claim 14 (currently amended) The mounting bracket of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the bushing is positioned within at least one attachment plate.

Claim 15 (currently amended) The mounting bracket of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.

131
CZ
Claim 16 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 15, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

Claim 17 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 15, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving notch configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The mounting bracket of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the attachment plates each comprise a first edge, the first edge of each attachment plate being connected to each other.

Claim 19 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 18, wherein the first edge of each attachment plate is integral with each other.

Claim 20 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 1, further comprising a fastener attached to the inner surface of the bushing.

Claim 21 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 20, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

Claim 22 (original): A mounting bracket for an inflatable curtain, comprising:
a pair of attachment plates for engaging the inflatable curtain, each plate configured to engage a respective opposing surface of an inflatable curtain, at least one plate defining an opening, to permit the positioning of a fastener within the opening; and
a bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the bushing in rotatable communication with at least one attachment plate adjacent the bushing configured to receive a

B1
fastener, the bushing comprising a flange extending radially from the outer surface of the bushing to facilitate retention of the bushing within the opening in the attachment plate.

AX
Claim 23 (currently amended): The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the outer surface of the bushing comprises a diameter smaller than the opening of ~~the~~ at least one attachment plate.

Claim 24 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 23, wherein the bushing is deformable to facilitate positioning of the bushing within the opening.

Claim 25 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 24, wherein the bushing comprises a protrusion positioned at the inner surface to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the bushing.

Claim 26 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 25, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.

Claim 27 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 26, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

Claim 28 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 26, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a notch configured within the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

Claim 29 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 27, further comprising a fastener attached to the inner surface of the bushing.

B1
Claim 30 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 29, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

Claim 31 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the bushing comprises a first piece rotatably engaged to a second piece.

Claim 32 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 31, wherein the first piece is attached to the attachment plate.

Claim 33 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 32, further comprising a fastener attached to the second piece.

Claim 34 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 33, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.

Claim 35 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 34, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within an attachment surface of the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

Claim 36 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 33, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

Claim 37 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the bushing comprises a snap having a male member and a female member.

Claim 38 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 37, wherein the female member rotatably engages the attachment plate at the opening.

131
G-4
Claim 39 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 38, wherein the male member comprises a protrusion positioned to facilitate engagement of a fastener with the bushing.

Claim 40 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 39, wherein a first attachment plate comprises a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate.

Claim 41 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 40, wherein a second attachment plate comprises a receiving orifice configured within an attachment surface of the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

Claim 42 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 41, further comprising a fastener attached to the inner surface of the bushing.

Claim 43 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 42, wherein the fastener comprises a head which is larger than the diameter of the inner surface of the bushing.

Claim 44 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 22, wherein the attachment plates each comprise a first edge, the first edge of each attachment plate being connected to each other.

Claim 45 (original): The mounting bracket of claim 44, wherein the first edge of each attachment plate is integral with each other.

Claim 46 (original): A mounting bracket for an inflatable curtain, comprising:
a first and second attachment plate, each configured to engage a respective opposing surface of an inflatable curtain, each plate further defining an opening, the opening of each plate being substantially aligned with each other to permit the positioning of a fastener

B1
GX
within each opening, the pair of attachment plates being attached to each other at a first edge of each attachment plate; and

a deformable bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the outer surface of the bushing comprising a diameter smaller than the opening of the attachment plate, the bushing being in rotatable communication with the attachment plate adjacent the opening;

a locking tab extending from an attachment surface of the first attachment plate; and

a receiving orifice configured within an attachment surface of the second attachment plate for receiving the locking tab.

Claim 47 (original): An airbag device, comprising:

an inflatable curtain having a first edge and opposing surfaces;

a first and second attachment plate configured to engage a respective opposing surface of the inflatable curtain, at least one attachment plate defining an opening to facilitate receiving a fastener; and

a bushing having an inner surface and an outer surface, the bushing being positioned within the opening and in rotatable communication with at least one attachment plate, the bushing comprising a flange extending radially from the outer surface of the bushing to facilitate retention of the bushing within the opening in the attachment plate.

B2
GX
Claim 48 (new): A mounting bracket for an inflatable curtain, comprising:

an attachment means for engaging the inflatable curtain, the attachment means defining an opening; and

a free rotation means for receiving a fastener and being in rotatable communication with the attachment means adjacent the opening, the free rotation means having an inner surface and an outer surface.

Appl. No. 09/942,244
Amdt. dated July 21, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 11, 2003

B1
CB
Claim 49 (new): The mounting bracket of claim 48, further comprising a locking means for securing the inflatable curtain to the attachment means.

Claim 50 (new): The mounting bracket of claim 48, wherein the free rotation means comprises a fastener engagement means positioned at the inner surface for frictionally engaging a fastener with the free rotation means.

Claim 51 (new): The mounting bracket of claim 48, wherein the attachment means engages a respective opposing surface of the inflatable curtain.
